



# MONTEREY NEWS

August 2000  
VOLUME XXX · Number 8



## The Town

### Gould Road Bridge Being Replaced

The bridge on Gould Road has been selected by the federal government for replacement with a new, experimentally designed bridge. Federal money is being used to replace the bridge, with the funds being administered by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Although the program originally called for the Town of Monterey to pay significant costs of the project, an agreement was reached that allows the town to pay for only a small portion of the work. The project is being supervised by the Conservation Commission. Don't forget about the detour to this section of Gould Road as we wait for a new bridge of laminated red maple.

### Barrier Removal Grant to Go to Bid

Monterey has been awarded a Community Development Block Grant, which is being administered by Berkshire Housing. This grant will be used for "barrier removal" to make the Town Offices handicapped accessible. Plans for the renovation are underway, and the project will go to bid by the middle to the end of August.

### Labor Day Transfer Station Hours

Due to the popularity of the special hours last year, the transfer station will

be open on Labor Day again this year. On Monday, September 4, the transfer station will be open from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. to accommodate second-home owners who will be moving that weekend. There will be a sign up at the Town Hall the week before as a reminder.

again this year. Kellogg consults for Monterey on an on-call basis, and has not yet been called during this fiscal year.

### Possible Monterey Historic District

The Monterey Historical Society sponsored an informational meeting on July 18 to discuss the possibility of



Glynis Oliver

*Summer in Monterey: Mountain laurel*

### Town Management Consultant Hired

Quotes were received on July 10 for Town Management Consulting Services for fiscal year 2001. Two quotes were received, and the Selectboard voted unanimously to accept Joseph A. Kellogg, the current Town Management Consultant, to work for the town

listing a section of Monterey on the National Register of Historic Districts. A representative of the Massachusetts Historical Commission answered questions, showed various examples of historic districts, and spoke about different possibilities that might be available to Monterey. A historic district would

signify that part of the town has a historic significance to the development of the community and would show its importance to the past and present development of the town. The proposed area for the district would consist mainly of the business district of the town. Community and nonprofit properties in the district would be able to apply for matching grants from the state for construction and renovation costs, and there would be some tax benefits for older properties in the district. The Historical Commission has been working on the possibility of having a historic district for two years. The Historical Society is now contacting owners of property in the proposed district and gathering feedback, as well as compiling research on buildings in the area. A historic district would not present any additional restrictions or obligations for individual properties. Although some towns choose to have stricter regulations, any changes to structures would continue to be governed by the zoning district rather than the historic district. The Historical Society sees the possibility as a complement to the town, and expects progress to be made in the next several months.

### LakeFest Day to be Held in August

Don't miss the Lake Garfield Association LakeFest Day on Saturday, August 26. This will be the first LakeFest held in Monterey, and is intended to bring people together who enjoy various forms of recreation around the lake.

The day will begin with a meeting about the Scenic Mountain Act at the Monterey Firehouse at 9:00 a.m. The afternoon will include water ski and wake board demonstrations, canoe tours, nature hikes, a potluck dinner, and a sunset flotilla.

The organizers are requesting that motorboaters be courteous of the activities, and be aware that there will be slow-moving boats on the lake in the afternoon and that LakeFesters will be appreciating the quietness of the lake, especially during the flotilla. The water ski demonstration will last for half an hour, from 1:00 to 1:30 p.m., and will be using the water ski course during that time.

In addition, Lake Garfield Association is planning a meeting of all boaters for August 19 at 9:00 a.m. This meeting is intended to resolve issues of noise and safety and to make the lake a peaceful place for all who enjoy it. The meeting will be held in the Meeting-house basement.

### Highway Superintendent Search Committee Formed

Don Amstead, Monterey's highway superintendent, has announced that he will retire on July 1, 2001. In light of this announcement, a search committee has formed to look for a new highway superintendent. They will also be re-evaluating the job description to make sure that the job fits Monterey's needs. The committee consists of Stanley Ross, Ray Tryon, Gareth Backhaus, Mickey Jervis, and Dean Amidon. Thank you to Don Amstead for all the work that you have done for Monterey!

### Changes for SBETC

Jane Green, the director of the Southern Berkshire Elderly Transportation Corporation (SBETC), has announced that she will retire in July of 2001, as will the Corporation's bookkeeper. A search committee is forming to find replacements for both of them. Because Monterey is a member town of SBETC, Amy Goldfarb will be representing the town on the committee. The search committee will consist of two board members and two to three people from various member towns. Those who are interested in helping with this should contact the SBETC by September 1.

— Melissa Hochstetler

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Horticulturist

413- 258-4929

Robert Tarasuk  
Natural Resources Specialist

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Open Thursday-Monday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The Monterey News is published monthly under the auspices of Monterey United Church of Christ, Monterey, MA 01245.

## Lake Garfield News

### Scenic Mountain Act Info Meeting

Mark Saturday, August 26, on your calendars. There will be a meeting of the Lake Garfield Association at the Monterey Firehouse at 9:00 a.m. to discuss the Massachusetts State Scenic Mountain Act. This meeting is open to everyone in the community. The main focus of the act is to preserve the natural beauty of our mountains and prevent eroding material from sliding into the lake by regulating development on the ridgelines.

Stockbridge and Williamstown have recently voted for the act, and Great Barrington is now considering it. Special speakers have been invited to inform the town on all aspects of this act. Shep Evans, former chairman of the Stockbridge Conservation Commission, board member of the Stockbridge Land Trust and member of the Executive Council of Housatonic River Restoration, will speak on how the town of Stockbridge adopted and implemented the Scenic Mountain Act.

Jim McGrath, a member of the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission and very knowledgeable about the act, will also speak and answer questions on this landmark legislation. Members of our town government will also attend.

### LakeFest

A small-scale lake festival is planned to celebrate our appreciation of Lake Garfield. Cosponsored by the Town of

Monterey and the Lake Garfield Association, the first annual LakeFest will be held on August 26 following the above LGA meeting. Events include a water ski and wake board demonstration; canoe tours through the tunnels and around Brewer Pond; a nature hike around Brewer Pond led by Bonner McAllester; "Monterey Indian/Wigwam/Fargo Swamp" walks led by David McAllester; a craft table for children; a community potluck picnic dinner at the beach and a Sunset Flotilla of small craft with David McAllester narrating a mix of lake lore and natural history stories.

Volunteer boaters with boats are needed for LakeFest to shuttle people to and from the wake board and water ski demonstrations. Also, canoes and quiet craft are needed for the flotilla and the Brewer Pond/tunnel tours. Ample liability insurance coverage is provided by the town. Please sign up to help at the LGA information table on Monterey Day, July 29, or call Alisa Carey, 528-2851, or Kathy Frome, 528-2516.

### Boaters' Meeting on August 19

Calling all boaters! Canoers, rowers, skiers, fishers, pontooners, paddlers, sailors, scullers, users of all manner of floating craft. Come participate



Wayne Dunlop

Water skiing demonstration at Lake Garfield

in the LGA's Boating and Recreation Team meeting on Saturday, August 19 at 9 a.m. in the Meetinghouse basement. The purpose of this meeting will be to begin efforts to promote safety and harmonious coexistence between boaters and the larger community of lake lovers.

### Lakefest Events Schedule

- 12:30 p.m.** Shuttle boats leave town beach for demonstrations
- 1:00-1:30 p.m.** Wake board and water ski demonstrations
- 2:00-3:30 p.m.** Monterey Indian/Wigwam/Fargo Pond Walk led by David McAllester (limit 10)
- 3:30-5:00 p.m.** Repeat above walk
- 1:00-3:00 p.m.** Crafts for Kids, Town Beach
- 3:00-5:00 p.m.:** Canoe tours of tunnels and Brewer Pond
- 4:30-5:30 p.m.** Nature hike around Brewer Pond led by Bonner McAllester (limit 15)
- 5:30-7:00 p.m.** Potluck picnic dinner; beach grill will be available
- 7:00-8:30 p.m.** Sunset Flotilla

For further information contact Judy Bach, 528-9636.



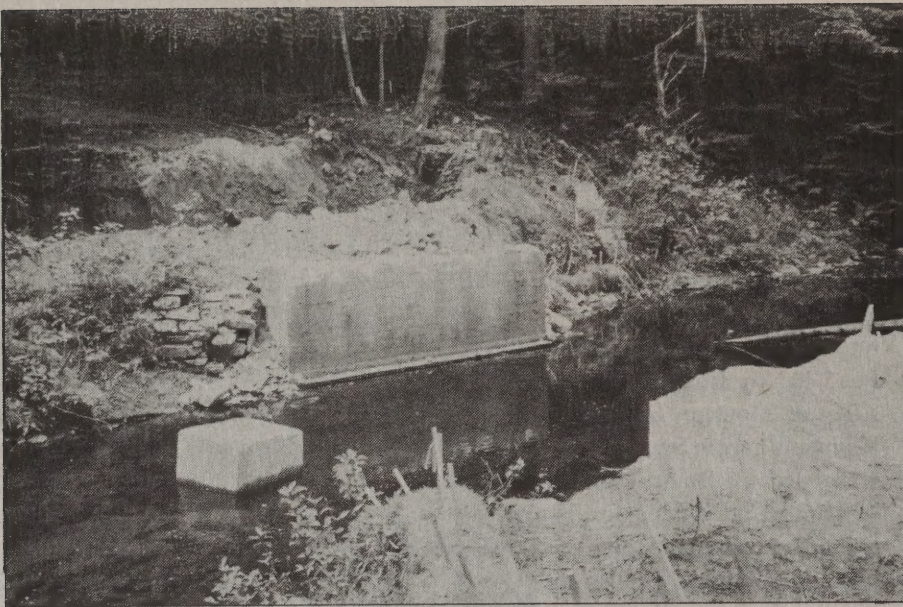
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Glynis Oliver

*Site of new experimental bridge on Gould Road (see p. 1)*

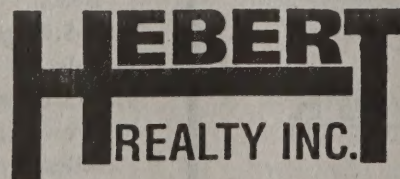
## Monterey Conservation Commission

The Monterey Conservation Commission is the local agent for the enforcement of the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act (WPA) and the Massachusetts Rivers protection Act (RPA). Both acts were passed primarily to protect the drinking water of towns. The majority of the commission's work is with property owners whose property borders Lake Garfield and who wish to install or repair septic systems or clear land around the lake. The commission works with the property owners to insure their planned projects will not have an adverse effect on water quality and also helps them

obtain any special permits needed to complete their projects lawfully. Anyone planning a construction project, land clearing or landscaping within 100 feet of wetlands or floodplains or within 200 feet of rivers or streams must submit an outline of the project to the Town Secretary to decide how WPA/RPA applies.

The Conservation Commission is comprised of seven members appointed for three-year terms. The current members are Chris Blair (chairman), Richard Nault, Ray Tryon, Deborah Mielke, David Dempsey, Richard Andrus, and David Logan. All members regularly attend seminars sponsored by the Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions.

— Suzanne Hoppenstedt



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## Monterey Historical Society August Events

On Wednesday evening, August 9, the Monterey Historical Society is sponsoring a field trip to the Stockbridge Cemetery, beginning at 6:15 p.m. "The Stockbridge Cemetery is alive with kings and clowns, sachems and saints. It's a great place to visit for a day or for eternity" (Gordon Hyatt in *Berkshire Magazine*, Summer 1994). We will meet our guide, Polly Pierce, at 6:15 p.m. at the first gate to the cemetery—coming from the east. There is parking along Main Street, or across Route 102 at the Town Hall. We are not to drive into the cemetery.

Polly Pierce was Curator of the Stockbridge Library's Historical Room for thirty-one years and is exceptionally able in interpreting the Town and its monuments. She is looking forward to telling us about some very famous people. Chief Konkapot and John Sargeant are among those buried in the ancient part of the cemetery. In a more recent section there is a magnificent spiral of graves known as the Sedgewick Pie. The Sedgewicks were one of the first families of the Berkshires. The Fields and the Choates are also buried there, as well as Norman Rockwell and Rheinolt Niebuhr.

You are invited to join us for a fascinating visit and glimpse into the past. For information, call Cynthia Weber, 528-3698.

### **Peter S. Vallianos** **Attorney at Law** **528-0055**

General practice includes real estate purchases, sales, family transfers and transfers in trust, zoning, land use matters, conservation restrictions, landlord-tenant; wills, probate; commercial law.

\*\*\*

I will meet with you at your home in Monterey.

## Do We Want a Historic District in Monterey?

A little more light was thrown on this subject on July 18, when Phil Bergen of the Massachusetts Historical Commission addressed about fifteen members of the Monterey Historical Society. With slides and comments he explained the National and State Registers of Historic Places. These listings provide honor and recognition for properties with historical, cultural, architectural, or archeological significance.

Before commenting further on Mr. Bergen's talk, it is important for us to acknowledge that most of us are suspicious of anything that seems to lead to governmental interference with our property rights. Clearly Mr. Bergen was assuring us that there is nothing in national and state registers that gives the state the right to regulate property. The rumors we have heard about state regulation stem from the fact that some national historic districts have also been made local historic districts. If there are regulations, these are made on the local level.

Mr. Bergen explained that the state registers are very reactive—responding only to local requests for the recognition of historic structures or districts. In other

words, there are no officials from the Massachusetts Historic Commission roaming about the state, seeking sites that should be put on a register. Rather, the Commission provides consultation to local communities and adds all national and local listings to the state register.

There are a number of benefits of National Register listings. The property may be eligible for partial funding for restoration. If the property is income-producing, 20 percent of rehabilitation costs may be available under provisions of the Tax Reform Act of 1986. In Massachusetts over 1300 projects have taken advantage of the federal tax credit. If the property is owned by a municipality or nonprofit organization, funding may be available through the Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund (MPPF) for 50 percent matching grants.

Mr. Bergen illustrated with slides the various kinds of structure that may be listed on the National Register, including grand residences and business properties, as well as modest structures



MaryKate Jordan

Chimney of historic Monterey General Store

such as diners and carousels that have historic significance. The condition of the property may be very poor. Usually at this point in his presentation Mr. Bergen shows a slide of Elm Court, a famous "Berkshire Cottage" located in Stockbridge. As many of us know, this property is shockingly deteriorated by decay and vandalism. It remains on the National Register due to its historic significance.

In Monterey, the Captain Brewer House, Rock Ridge, and the Bidwell House are all on the National Register. Do we wish to reconsider a National Historic District, which would bring more prestige to Monterey and enhance the value of property in the eyes of those who find our history to be of great importance? Only a meeting of property owners in a proposed district can provide the answer.

— Jana Shepard



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## August at The Bidwell House

Coming to The Bidwell House last month I was fortunate that Anita had planned a series of fascinating public education programs for the museum. It is education programs that truly make the House a gathering place for members of the Monterey community and beyond. As a historian, I realize that this house was always the center of the community, despite its remote geographic location today. When Rev. Bidwell and his family lived here the home served as a gathering place for community members with the meeting house (church) just down our road. Rev. Bidwell and Jemima's son and grandson, Adonijah, Jr., and John, were Justices of the Peace for our community, thus continuing the tradition of the Bidwell House being of great importance to the inhabitants. People would have come to the house to do business making it a type of Town Hall.

Lindsay Pontius of the Bigger Light Theater Company of Monterey, and our neighbor, has always shared this belief that The Bidwell House should be a gathering place for Monterey and its citizens. Over the past six years, she and her Company have staged amazing theatrical productions that help to define The Bidwell House as more than a historic house museum. This August she will present one of her most ambitious projects to date at the house.

**Threads and Thresholds: History Series** was originally conceived by Lindsay and Anita as a way to look at the home's 250-year history with a special focus on the women who lived in the house. Today, we know little but basic facts about Rev. Bidwell's three wives, Theodosia, Jemima, and Ruth. Equally frustrating is our lack of knowledge of Jemima's two daughters who lived in the house until their marriages. *Threads and Thresholds* was created to help viewers learn more about these ordinary women who lived extraordinary lives in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

This summer, women and girls from Monterey and the surrounding communities are participating in the project as actors and helping write the plays. Working with Lindsay and Anita, they have researched and written the third in the series of programs, called *Into the Landscape*. This theatrical pageant will look at the importance of the land to women, both in the past and today. Using the magnificent property around The Bidwell House as a backdrop, the actors will explore this theme helping the audience learn more about not only the Bidwell House's history, but also their own connection with the land and with Monterey.

*Into the Landscape* debuts on Saturday, August 26; there will be additional performances on August 27, 31,

and September 1 and 2. All performances are at 7:00 p.m. and will be held outdoors. Admission is \$12.00 for adults and free for children ages 8 to 18. Tickets will be available at the door.

Many thanks to our sponsors of this summer-long theatrical series: Katheryn and Marc Roberts, Jamie Puntin, Maria Carvainis, Miriam and Kenneth Heyman, Susan and Benjamin Lechtman, and Joseph Menker.

### Looking Ahead: Annual Tomato

**Tasting, Saturday, September 2 from 1:00–2:00 p.m.,** free of charge. We will have heirloom tomatoes from the famed Bidwell House garden again this year for your sampling. Come learn and taste!

What else can you do at The Bidwell House this summer? Come hike our trails

on 190 acres of magnificent woodlands. Picnic on the grounds. View the gardens. All free of charge! And be sure to take a guided tour. We are a perfect solution for the never-ending summer question, "What should we do with our guests?"

Tours are Tuesday–Sunday, 11:00–4:00. Admission is \$5.00 for adults, \$4.00 for seniors, and \$3.00 for children. Members are always free of charge. For further information call Lisa Simpson at 528-6888.

— Lisa Simpson



*Hear ye, hear ye!*

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### MONTEREY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Sunday Service · 10 a.m.  
in the Meeting House

For Information and Assistance:

Steve Snyder at Gould Farm

528-1804

MaryKate Jordan

528-5557

Dick Tryon

528-0728



Bottom Row: Jan Emmons, Anita Carroll-Weldon, Glynis Oliver;  
Middle: MaryKate Jordan, Kathy Bracken, Barbara Tryon; Top: Carole Zarin.  
Gige O'Connell managed to avoid being pictured by acting as photographer.

## Anita's Farewell

When Anita Carroll-Weldon resigned her position at The Bidwell House, and let us know that she and Tom were leaving Monterey, Jan Emmons got on the phone to invite the Monterey Piecemakers to a farewell party for our sister quilter. In addition to Anita and Jan, Kathy Bracken, MaryKate Jordan, Gige O'Connell, Glynis Oliver, Barbara Tryon, and Carole Zarin were able to attend.

The evening began with drinks, snacks, laughter, and conversation on the porch overlooking Jan's gardens. Then the guests tramped to a serving table in the Emmons' backyard to fill their plates

with the salads, veggies, and other treats circled around a centerpiece platter piled high with Jan's delicious chicken. Somehow, the entire crew still managed to enthusiastically welcome the variety of sweets available for dessert.

The group also presented Anita with a gift for the Weldons' new home (No, not a quilt; it was a print of Monterey.) After coffee we said farewell, and look forward to Anita's and Toms' visits.

George Emmons and Dick Tryon took the Emmons' dog into Great Barrington to facilitate the party. George reported that they, too, had a great evening and a delicious dinner.

— MaryKate Jordan

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## Mary Ward's "Surprise"

MaryKate Jordan reports that Ray and Mary Ward are settling well into their new apartment in Lee. On a recent visit, MaryKate and Mary were noting the particularly dramatic shade of yellow the goldfinches are wearing this summer. Since they had earlier been talking about poetry, Mary brought out a journal she has been keeping over the years, and gave permission to share this poem with her Monterey neighbors by way of the *News*.

### Surprise

*Yesterday's dandelions now balls  
of fluff,  
Seeds bearing lifeprints of more  
golden puffs.  
Down flies a goldfinch and dines on  
the seeds.  
Golden puff now is bird—miracle  
indeed!*

## Storytelling for Children at Monterey Library

The Monterey Library is sponsoring a storytelling for children at the Library on Saturday, August 12, at 10:00 a.m. Monterey's own Kathy Bracken will tell "Why Mosquitoes Buzz in People's Ears." The storytelling is aimed at children ages prekindergarten through fourth grade, but all are welcome.



## Berkshire County Government

With the County of Berkshire having ceased operations July 1, the municipalities of the geographical entity of Berkshire County are no longer under the auspices of any regional government. The Berkshire Charter Commission, composed of representatives from various communities throughout the region, studied the possibilities after the demise of Berkshire County government and adopted a charter for a potential Council of Governments. It will be brought to the voters of the Berkshires at the November election. If two-thirds of the total population or two-thirds of the total number of cities and towns in the geographical entity of Berkshire County approve of the charter in November, it will take effect on January 1, 2001.

Understanding the basic principles of the charter adopted by the Berkshire Charter Commission is very important, as this regional Council of Governments (CoG) could potentially be a strong voice for the Berkshires and promote regional cooperation among cities and towns in the Berkshires. Some of the key elements of the charter are:

- The voters of each city/town will determine whether it will become a member of the potential Council of Governments (CoG) by a majority vote.
- If supported, cities and towns will appoint an official to the Council of Governments who will represent that community. Each community is guaranteed one vote at the table, plus an



additional vote based on its population in comparison to the total population of the CoG. The Charter Commission felt this would give every community an incentive to participate.

• While *all* member communities will be responsible for a membership fee for joining the Council of Governments, each municipality will pay *only* for those services it chooses to utilize. Fees for membership and services have yet to be developed; however, the Charter Commission anticipates the initial start-up costs of a CoG will be significantly less than a quarter of what the County of Berkshire assessed municipalities collectively last year (over \$1 million).

For more information contact Sean Loughlin or Nat Karns at the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission.

— Berkshire Regional Planning  
Commission



## Berkshire Grown Campaign

On July 7, 2000, the Berkshire Regional Food and Land Council (BRFLC) launched its first Buy Berkshire Grown Campaign. The county-wide Campaign, made possible through three grants totaling \$26,686 from the Massachusetts Department of Food and Agriculture, highlights the amazing bounty of local food especially during the summer and fall months. The goal of the Buy Berkshire Grown Campaign is to increase the sales of locally grown and produced foods, thereby maintaining and growing strong, viable farms in Berkshire County.

Right now over 85 percent of the food Berkshire County residents and visitors eat is imported from outside Berkshire County and in most cases outside the state of Massachusetts. In addition, the county loses significant acres of farm land and working farms each year. The Buy Berkshire Grown Campaign is part of a larger effort of the Berkshire Regional Food and Land Council to reverse this trend by increasing awareness of local food products and encouraging stronger connections between consumers, farmers, and producers.

The Buy Berkshire Grown Campaign hopes to reach the 140,000 residents and 2 million visitors in a multimedia effort including:

• *Buy Berkshire Grown: A Buyers' Guide to Locally Grown & Produced Food, Flowers and Plants:* An 8-page color guide and map of local farms, farm stands, and farmers' markets published as a special insert in the *Advocate* and in the *Berkshire Eagle* for July 7 and August 16.

• Launch of our new website, [www.berkshiregrown.com](http://www.berkshiregrown.com): This user-friendly

# WILLIAM BROCKMAN

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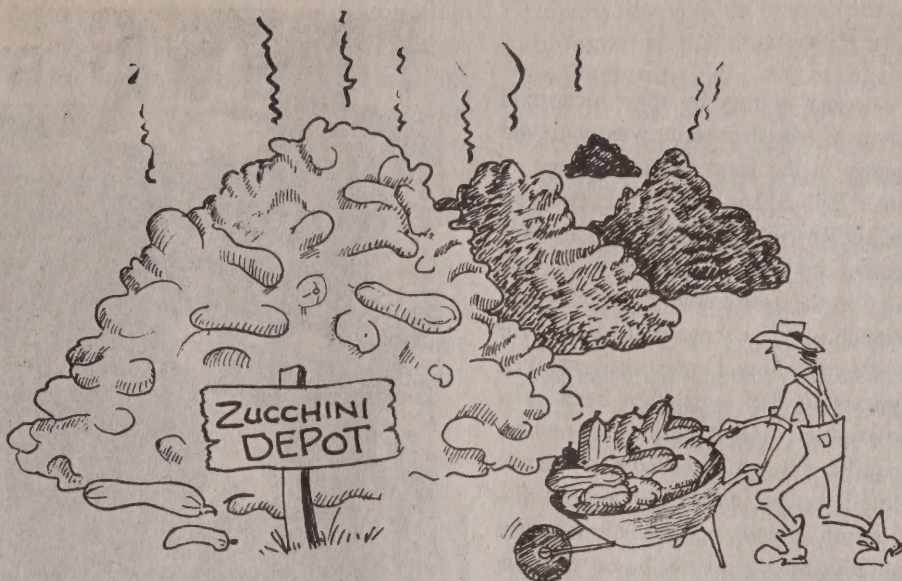
site will include a Green Dining and Shopping Guide, directing consumers to 65 Berkshire Grown restaurants and stores that support local food and farms; a listing of the over 80 farms and farmstands that sell locally grown and produced food, flowers and plants; information on what consumers can do to support local farms; seasonal recipes; and question/answer sessions with local chefs and farmers.

- **Berkshire Grown Brochure and Dining Guide:** A brochure detailing the BRFLC, its programs like Berkshire Grown (the restaurant/farmer partnership), and instructions on how to support the Berkshire County restaurants, inns, and retail stores that have made a commitment to Buy Berkshire Grown.

- **Agricultural Calendar:** An exhaustive listing of regional food and farm events scheduled in 2000 which focus and highlight our agricultural heritage and economy. Will be distributed around the county and published in the *Berkshire Eagle*.

- **Local Food Promotional Advertising:** Newspaper advertising, public radio, cultural guide ads, and other promotional materials are being used to educate residents and visitors alike of their options in buying local foods.

For questions or specific materials please call BRFLC at 528-5089.



## Don't Trash Your Grass

Summer's here, time for weekly lawn mowing. This season brings no shortage of grass or rain. According to a Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) brochure "Don't Trash Grass!" a one-half acre of lawn in New England produces over three tons or nearly 260 bags of grass clippings each year.

Bagging and disposing of grass clippings is unnecessary. The grass clippings can stay where they fall. Grass clippings left on the lawn will decom-

pose and act as a natural organic fertilizer, decreasing the need for additional commercial fertilizer. Following the brochure's recommendations will result in less hassle and less waste.

### Techniques & Tips

- Any mower can recycle grass clippings. Simply remove the grass catcher. Ask your lawn mower dealer if a special safety plug or adaptor kit is needed. You can also have a mulching blade installed.

- Keep your grass mowed to 2"-3" tall.
- Keep your mower blade sharp because dull mowers tear the grass blade, injuring the plant and create a brownish cast to the turf.

- Try using your grass clippings as mulch. Apply dried grass clippings directly on the soil about one inch thick to reduce weeds, maintain soil temperature and control soil spattering, erosion, runoff and evaporation.

- Grass clippings are an excellent source of nitrogen for your compost pile. Mix thoroughly with materials such as leaves and turn the pile regularly to keep it well aerated and to prevent odors.

For more information about grass recycling or composting, or to receive a "Don't Trash Grass" brochure, contact Jamie Cahillane at CET at (413) 445-4556, 1-800-238-1221, or [jamiec@cetonline.org](mailto:jamiec@cetonline.org).

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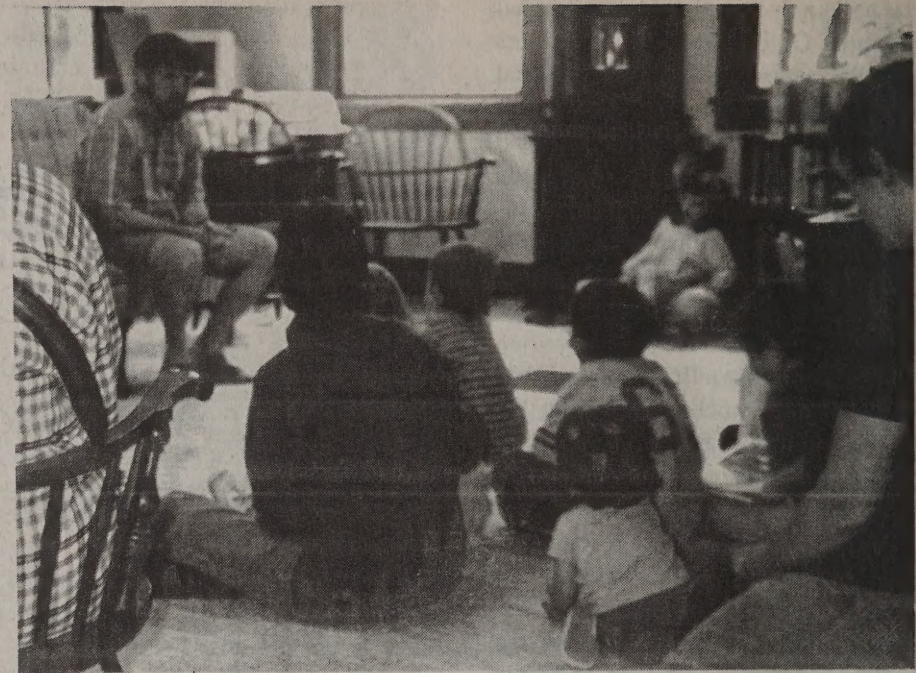
(413) 528-1457, or out of town call 1-800-734-1457

## Rep Rap

A great victory for the educational system of Massachusetts was achieved recently in the form of the passage of House Bill 5116, An Act Improving Teacher Recruitment, Retention and Retirement, into law. The issue of a revised plan for the retirement of teachers in Massachusetts has been in the works for several years now. I have been a staunch advocate of this legislation because it allows older, more experienced teachers to opt for a much deserved early retirement. This also enables our school districts to hire new, enthusiastic teachers thus educating students based on new experiences and teaching methods.

This law contains three major features. The first is a 2 percent increase in retirement allowance for each year of creditable service earned beginning with the 25th year up to the maximum of 80 percent of the 3-year final average salary for each teacher who chooses to opt into the new plan. This would allow longtime teachers to retire earlier with a larger portion of their salary. Teachers become eligible for this early retirement option after they have completed at least 30 years of creditable service. For example: under the old plan a teacher who retired at age 60 after completing 32 years of creditable service would receive 64 percent of their 3-year final average salary. However, under the new retirement plan, the same teacher would receive 80 percent, or the statutory maximum, of their 3-year final average salary.

The second major feature of this new law applies to teachers who left their teaching posts in Massachusetts before



Will Marsh

*Anson Olds telling tales at Monterey Library*

1975 for maternity purposes. These teachers, under the new plan, would be able to purchase up to four years of that time as creditable service. This would enable teachers who took a break from teaching to have children to get credit for some or all of the time they spent away from the profession for that reason.

The third feature of this new law is an individual option that allows all members of the Mass. Teachers' Retirement System hired prior to July 1, 2001, to choose whether or not to participate in this new retirement program. This was included because for some teachers who are close to retiring with their full benefits under the old system it would be more costly to them to opt into the new program because they

would be expected to make additional contributions to make up for the fact that under the new system teachers expecting to retire early will need to contribute more than in the past.

If this law works as planned the result should be a fair way for older teachers to retire with the most possible benefits so that their jobs can be filled with young enthusiastic new teachers. We should not worry about a shortage of teachers, as has been the criticism by the law's opponents. Early estimates show that approximately 12,000 members of the Teacher's Retirement System will be able to retire under this law. Almost 17,000 people have passed the prospective teacher's test in the past two years, creating a substantial pool of replacement teachers. However, should a shortage of replacement teachers occur, there is a provision in the law that would allow retired teachers to be hired in areas of critical need or as mentors for the new teachers to make the transition go more smoothly. This law has been a long time in coming but due to diligent advocacy this bill is now law.

As always, please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns at my full-time district office at 243-0289.

— Rep. Christopher J. Hodgkins

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## Senator Says

### Beavers and Trapping

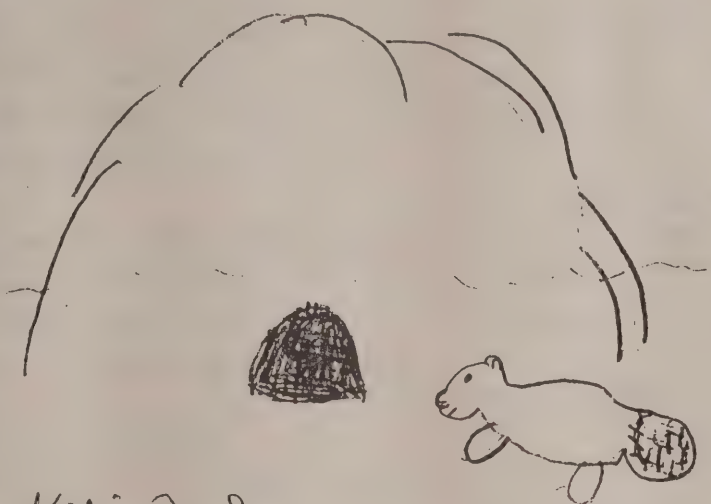
In 1996, the voters approved a statewide ballot initiative that banned the use of conibear traps in Massachusetts. Called Question 1, and codified at Massachusetts General Law chapter 131 section 80A, the law bans the use of body-gripping conibear traps for the purposes of hunting or for controlling the beaver and muskrat population. Conibear traps are not to be confused with leg-hold traps, which were banned in Massachusetts years before Question 1 appeared on the 1996 ballot. The 1996 law included provisions for property owners to apply for waivers if they needed to use a conibear trap to abate "an animal problem" when all other remedies had failed. Waiver applications had to go to the state Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, and there was widespread dissatisfaction with implementation of the waiver process.

Without smooth implementation of the waiver process, the beaver population has grown in ways that have led to many conflicts between property owners and nature's dam-builders throughout the Commonwealth.

In an attempt to address the growing conflict, the state House of Representatives passed a bill earlier in this legislative session that would have allowed a return to virtually unrestricted

trapping. The state Senate did not adopt this new beaver-trapping bill. Rather, the Senate offered a bill streamlining and allowing more local control of the waiver process, and defining types of situations where beaver activity might be considered a threat to human health and safety.

These competing versions of the beaver-trapping bill were referred to a joint House/Senate conference committee several months ago. In early July,



the conference committee reported a compromise version of the bill. This compromise bill, which is very similar to the earlier Senate bill, includes the following provisions:

- The ban on conibear traps is not overturned;
- An emergency permit to use a conibear trap may be granted when there is a threat to human health and safety, or an imminent threat of substantial

property damage or income loss. As alternatives, the emergency permit could allow the use of box or cage-type traps or, subject to approval by the local conservation commission, the breaching of beaver dams, or use of nonlethal water-flow devices;

- Permits may be issued by the local Board of Health instead of going through the state Division of Fisheries and Wildlife. If a permit is denied, applicants can appeal to the state Department of Public Health;

- Permits are effective for a 10-day period, but may be extended for another 30 days by the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife if the problem persists;

- Owners of private property may qualify for a permit if a building or agricultural land is threatened by flooding, or if authorities determine that flooding may pose a health or safety threat.

- On community property, the definition of "threats to human health and safety" for which a permit may be

granted includes such things as beaver or muskrat occupancy of a public water supply; flooding of drinking water wells; flooding of a public or private way, driveway, railway or airport runway or taxiway; and the gnawing, chewing, entering, or damage to electrical or gas equipment, cables, alarm systems or facilities by any beaver or muskrat.

— Senator Andrea F. Nuciforo, Jr.

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## Haiku

*A weed-filled garden  
on a deserted estate—  
wild flowers gathered.*

\*

*Among old gravestones  
we meditate together;  
the squirrels, birds and I.*

\*

*Alone in the pool  
on a moonlight night, a star  
rippled next to me.*

\*

*Vortex in a brook  
separate in appearance—  
ending, reforming.*

\*

— Ann M. LeVallée

## Birth

*Stars spin off into the black  
yet she can hear the earth  
even the Seven O'Clock News somewhere  
feel rubber fingers probing—  
mountains rend her apart hot oceans  
laving her loins all most secret innermost  
forced by searing holy pain  
to bulge into light  
straining pushing forth fury screams  
her roars caught up in primeval waves:  
foaming weird waters of Chaos  
  
then as rocks primigenous burst up into first day  
a soul is born  
tell it retell retell the same ever different!  
Goddess Mother, be worshiped  
God is given form  
time is caught in space  
there there howling on the white blood-stained sheet  
glistening imperious present*

*a whole new world!*

— A. O. Howell

## Dorothea (In Memoriam)

*Unpredictable  
like quick-silver  
shaggy  
like eucalyptus  
clever  
like the wily red fox  
irresistible and gone  
like fragrant violets—*

— Nancy D. Adams

## There is a love

*There is a love I have who  
knows more than me.  
I know more than her, except  
when the merry skeleton  
shows his face,  
and he's eating, gayly,  
at my soul.*

*Fear drives me back to her.  
Is fear such a bad word?*

— Peter Shepley

## Sounds

*A lawnmower running next door.  
The curtains being sucked  
then released by the wind.  
The humming of the computer.  
The shadows of a tree  
brushing the window trim.  
The fizzing in a glass of champagne.  
An unlit candle's cold appeal.  
Photographs of the past  
mything. A lawnmower next door  
stopping. A clock ticking.  
The phone ringing loudly.  
A mother saying her doctor  
said wait until September  
for the surgery.  
A sigh, the breathing.*

— Peter Shepley



## Advance Directive

*DNR,  
Do Not  
Resuscitate.*

*One generation knows  
what?*

*It's easy for us to say.*

*This guy's old.  
Get him out of here.*

*Here meaning earth.*

*Just because they can doesn't mean  
they should,*

*meaning resuscitate.*

*It's so easy to suggest;  
maybe you've had enough  
of this life maybe.*

*These extreme measures  
are too extreme.*

*Life after all is a question of  
quality, right?  
Not just suspended beneath,  
under a bunch of machines.*

*If only you could predict  
what you'll feel  
when the big then comes.*

*Sign here.*

— Peter Shepley



## Dinah Recommends

*Bad Day At Riverbend*, written and illustrated by Chris Van Allsburg

This book is good for younger children who like adventure. Fans of Chris Van Allsburg, (*Polar Express*, *The Witch's Broom*) would like this. The pictures in this book are black outlines on a white background, with colored scribbles for the slimy rope-like stuff that the sheriff found.

*Bad Day At Riverbend* is about the sheriff of Riverbend and the town of Riverbend. One day the sheriff sees a mysterious bright light pass the town of Riverbend.

To find out what the mysterious bright light is, and to find out what the slimy rope-like stuff has to do with this story, you can check this book out at the Monterey Library.

— Dinah Mielke

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## Sagebrush Country

We have been back a week from sagebrush country but the mystique and the aroma linger on. There is a little pot on our kitchen table with a few sprigs of *Artemesia tridentata*, or Big Sagebrush, gathered at our last campsite in Wyoming. Every time the sun shines in the window here in Monterey and hits those little bits of grey-green foliage, the air is perfumed with the molecules which transport us more than 2,000 miles to the land of antelope, mule deer, and wide open spaces.

Sagebrush grows all over the west. It is a shrubby plant and can survive on windswept plains where it hugs the ground and never gets taller than about eight or ten inches, or it can grow ten feet tall in protected gullies. The foliage is green all year around, and in late summer and fall tiny yellow flowers appear on tall slim stalks or panicles. The species name, *tridentata*, describes the small, wedge-shaped leaves, which have three teeth at their distal end.

In our family and in others that I have heard about, we have a romantic tradition involving sagebrush. Whenever any of us gets to the western country where it grows, we stop the car, pick a little sage, and pop it into an envelope to send to anyone not lucky enough to

be along on this trip. We have a friend who grew up in Jackson Hole, Wyoming. When she was away in England for a few years, learning to build harpsichords, one of her pals from back home made her a little harpsichord teddy bear of cloth, stuffed with sagebrush leaves. She kept it by her pillow in far England to remind herself of home, the way one of us New Englanders might snuggle up to a balsam pillow.

Twenty years ago Joe and I made a trip to Wyoming in late fall. It was snowing as we crossed the Bighorn River, and I remember we stopped our ancient car (at some risk of not being able to get it started again) and shook the snow off a few branches of sage, which we picked to send a friend in Vermont. Weeks later we heard the story of his having received our gift, made the mistake of confusing it with culinary sage, and loaded up a roaster with a pricey piece of salmon and way too much *Artemesia tridentata*. The kitchen was nicely perfumed and evocative of God's country, but the fish was inedible.

People can't eat sagebrush, but the wildlife in Wyoming love it. Antelope, sage grouse, mule deer, elk, and moose depend upon its high protein and fat for winter grazing especially. Biologists feel that many of these animals are

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saved from "winter kill" (this means starvation) by the plentiful sagebrush. In fact, sagebrush is more plentiful now than it was when the first white visitors

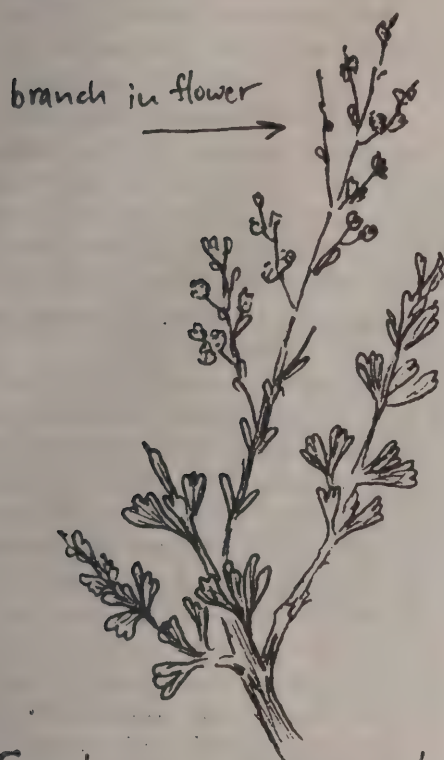
you hear about "range improvement" or "management" projects on public lands in the West, and what this means is "sagebrush eradication." Near our last campsite in Wyoming, which was on Bureau of Land Management (that word again) land, we saw a sign commending the Beaver Creek Ranch for its participation in range improvement. What we saw was a lot of burned sagebrush and some grass growing up.

On our last morning, as we were drying out the tent and gathering the sachet for our kitchen table at home, a picturesque young cowboy rode into our camp on a gleaming sorrel gelding, quite a lot like our grand old quarter horse Peewee, here at home. This young man wore a black hat and spurs, and as he approached he let us know

lic lands at this time, when they should have been moved off by now. Got to let that new grass get a foothold before the sagebrush springs back, I guess. We admired his horse and general romance, and as he rode off I wondered if there was any way to keep him in the sagebrush but get rid of the cows. It would mean taking the "cow" out of cowboy—what you'd have left would not be the same thing.

We sit here in our kitchen, peering out at the thick green of a Berkshire summer. The catbird is rattling away about something, up by the garden, maybe commenting that never have the potato bugs crawled so thick upon the land. It's true. You go away for five weeks of summer and you have to expect a certain degree of takeover, of biological shift. In a few minutes, my own personal Department of Land Management will get up there with a yogurt container for collecting the varmints and a spading fork for rooting the native species out of my managed lands. As I work I'll be remembering the cowboy, sniffing the sage. They really aren't so far away.

— Bonner J. McAllester



Sagebrush - *Artemisia tridentata*

got to Wyoming. Accounts from those early days tell of grasses and sage growing together, but cattle ranching has resulted in overgrazing, which has favored the sagebrush. Cows will eat sagebrush, but they prefer grass. So now

what was on his mind. "You haven't seen any cows around here, have you?" We hadn't. He worked for Beaver "Crick" and was missing a few. In fact, the BLM had notified the ranch that there were cows grazing on these pub-

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## WAMC Visits

### Rawson Brook Farm

Susan Arbetter of WAMC (public radio) and Michael Ballon of the Castle Street Café in Great Barrington visited Susan Sellew at Rawson Brook Farm (home of Monterey Chèvre) to tape a segment to be aired sometime this month on the program Arbetter hosts every weekday morning called *Round Table*.

There was much excitement as we prepared the farm for the interview. We wondered what Susan Arbetter actually looks like, having become very familiar with her voice—and what would we wear? A clean apron and matching bandana for me and for Susan some very un-barnlike black capri pants and sandals. We cleaned up the rooms, got our work finished and were ready by 12:30 p.m. We knew that for a radio interview it didn't matter what we all looked like but it made us feel good and ready. Susan also knew that for the segment to appear to be "on location" she would have to get some characteristic sound effects out of the goats.

We waited while it rained and then they came. To our disappointment no fancy equipment came with them, just a tape recorder and digital camera for photos for WAMC's web page. It was a whirlwind as Arbetter with intense focused energy determined there was too much of an echo in the spotlessly cleaned milking parlor and the two Susans retired to the WAMC van for the interview. The only glitch came when the goats, who hate rain, remained goatlike in the barn and refused to budge or make a noise on cue. Finally, Susan Arbetter and Michael Ballon actually went into the barn with the goats to get the response they wanted. Michael got his ear affectionately nibbled and Susan stepped in—well, you know what. But they did get their blatts.

At press time here at the *Monterey News*, no date had been set for the airing of this segment, but Ballon's cooking segment usually appears on alternate Wednesdays.

Oh, Susan Arbetter looks just like her picture.

— Glynis Oliver

## The Clockwise Hornet

Every spring, the hornet, which is actually a very large yellow jacket, begins to build the annual new hive to house the summer activity that perpetuates the species through an ongoing cyclical renewal. The ambitious architectural work is initiated by a mated queen that has hibernated over the winter nearby and is often the sole survivor of the previous year's colony. As the instinctive imprint of a master plan begins to take shape, complex layers of eight-sided combs are constructed to provide protection for another new generation. The combs are covered over with a paper-thin mantle that masks the inner potency of the hive's avenging fury upon any intruder.

"Mad as a hornet" is an appropriate expression that likens a human state of mind and the angry demeanor of a human face to the supposedly ugly mood of avenging hornets. Actually, entomologists tell us that hornets are normally quiescent and industrious, as progress in and around the hive continues day by day. In the generally peaceful weather patterns of early summer, formation of the hive is completed. There is only one opening, which often appears to be the apex of a spiral configuration.

Hornets do not like to be disturbed in their rounds, perhaps because there are not enough daylight hours to finish the daily tasks to satisfy their queen. Almost instantly, a routine endeavor can turn very decidedly violent. If only one or two hornets become seriously provoked, they emit a chemical substance called alarm pheromones, which incites the rest of the colony to swarm. Similarly Mother Nature herself can reverse her prevailing good mood in the counterclockwise swirling winds that whip up into the frenzy of a hurricane, the funnel cloud of a tornado, or the water spout of a typhoon.

Scientific observations of the shape and direction of nature's wrath are just as interesting as those of the positive developments of her constructive side, such as the building of bird nests and hornet hives. But despite the work of modern science, perhaps there will never be another culture as well tuned to the human connection to the cycles and circles that encompass our lives as that of Native Americans. I quote the profound philosophy of Black Elk, an Oglala Sioux who lived to see many moons (1863–1950) and described the scheme of things as he and his ancestors evolved, living outdoors every day and watching the stars from around the campfire at night:



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"Everything the power of the world does is done in a circle. The sky is round and I have heard that the earth is round like a ball and so are all the stars. The wind, in its greatest power, whirls. Birds make their nests in circles, for

theirs is the same religion as ours. The sun comes forth and goes down again in a circle. The moon does the same and both are round. Even the seasons form a great circle in their changing and always come back again to where they

were. The life of a man is a circle from childhood to childhood. And so it is in everything where power moves."

As the summer winds down, autumn winds are not far behind. When the leaves have all fallen, and the bare branches of the trees begin to rattle, the hornets' hive will eventually unravel. Only the mated queens will survive by hibernating, often under the bark of a tree. The unbroken hoop of the hornet life cycle narrows down to a few individuals. They were born with a genetic timepiece, which now chimes like a biological clock, tuned into the longitude and latitude of their precise station on earth, and the celestial calipers of their instincts tell them it is now time.

— George Emmons

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## Ceremonial Practitioner Visits on Music Quest

A few weeks ago an eminent historian lectured in Tyringham on the school for Native missionaries that was established in Cornwall, Connecticut, in the early nineteenth century. There were Polynesians, Africans, Native Americans, and others. Trouble arose when some of these members of other races and cultures began to court some of the local young women of Cornwall. These aspiring young ministers might be welcomed into the Church, but not into local Christian families! Eventually the school had to be discontinued and such training was removed to the home countries of the students.

It just happened that, at the time of the lecture in Tyringham, a missionary of another kind had just telephoned me from Arizona to make plans for a visit to New England. He was a Navajo *hataali*, a ceremonial practitioner. The word means "singer," and Avery Denny is a singer of Nightway, a ceremony that takes nine days and nights to perform. Though Avery is a young man, he is highly respected on the Navajo Reservation for his ability as a religious leader, and he is a professor of Navajo Studies at the Dineh Nation College in Tsaille, Arizona. He teaches Navajo religion, language, and culture to young Navajos who wish to know about their traditional way of life.

Ironically, one of the largest collections of recordings of Navajo sacred



Glynis Oliver

*Bleeding heart*

songs in the world is in the archives of Wesleyan University, a college that was founded to prepare young men for the Methodist ministry and for missionary work worldwide. With Avery's help, some hundreds of these songs had already been copied for the archives at the Cultural Center of the Dineh Nation College and he was being sent back to search the indices for more.

I met his plane at Bradley Airport and we went first to visit the Pequot Nation in Ledyard, Connecticut. Avery had a mission there, too: to appeal for funding for his youth work in his home community in Pinyon, Arizona. He was very kindly received by the Pequots, now one of the richest communities in the world, and then we went on to the

main business of the visit, religious retrieval at Wesleyan.

Avery got right onto the computer and spent two days listening to the material that would be of most value to him and his students. Often he was able to tell us where material that had come to us from older collections had been mislabeled or to identify material that had no documentation at all. His visit was an archivist's dream, and our collection was a treasure for this very knowledgeable practitioner. I have been avoiding the term "medicine man" because of its derogatory connotations, but the teachers in that long-gone school in Cornwall would have considered Avery to have been a "witch doctor" and an agent of Beelzebub. Today we think his visit was a fulfillment of one of the important missions of an archive of World Music.

Avery also wanted to visit Monterey. I've known him for some years, and he wanted to see the place where Beryl and I live. I think he wondered how we could bear to be surrounded by so many trees, but he politely expressed appreciation for the beautiful Berkshires and had a meal with us before he headed back for the wide open spaces of northern Arizona.

— David P. McAllester

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## Have Needle; Will (Time) Travel 1917 Afternoon Wrap

In 1917, the War to End All Wars was raging; no need to number it, yet. According to *The Timetables of History*, the British royal family renounced German names and titles, George M. Cohen wrote the musical hit "Over There," Woodrow Wilson was inaugurated to his second term as president, and John F. Kennedy was born. Four women, arrested for picketing the White House on behalf of women's right to vote, were sentenced to six months in jail.

MaryKate Jordan



Carl Gustav Jung's *Psychology of the Unconscious* and Sigmund Freud's *Introduction to Psychoanalysis* were published. Picasso, Modigliani, John Singer Sargent, and others in the art world mourned the deaths of Degas and Rodin. Prokofiev's "Opus 25" and Bartok's "The Wooden Prince" were produced, while the first jazz recordings were made by The Original Dixieland Jazz Band. Sarah Bernhardt began her last tour of the United States, and the first baseball game at the Polo Grounds resulted in arrest for Giants manager John McGraw and Reds manager Christy Mathewson for violating New York's blue laws.

And I was told that 1917 is the year the afternoon wrap hanging in my closet

was created. An afternoon wrap is a less formal garment than an opera cape, although the basic construction is the same. It fits over the shoulders, fastens at the front, and has hemmed slits at about elbow height so that the wearer can extend her hands and arms out into the world.

My afternoon wrap is made primarily of a soft butterscotch-colored wool, a little lighter than the shade of a typical Haflinger pony. It boasts a touch of bronze-colored lace, blue piping, and blue silk insets embroidered with white flowers which, although frayed, are still beautiful. The wrap, which flows from shoulders to mid-calf and swirls into a circle at the slightest hint of dance music, fastens with snaps and sets of hooks and eyes,

which are covered with strips of the same palomino-colored wool.

I wouldn't call it a daring garment, myself. I just love the way I've felt when I've worn it. And since it was first in vogue during the year that bobbed hair became the rage for women in both Europe and the United States, I can leave my hair short-as-is and feel both retro and absolutely avant garde. Maybe as avant garde as the woman who wore it first, maybe to hear The Original Dixieland Band, eighty-three years ago.

— MaryKate Jordan

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## Yankee Notions at Sandisfield Arts

On Saturday, August 19, at 8 p.m., Yankee Notions will perform songs, tunes, and tales of New England at the Sandisfield Arts Center on Hammettown Road off Route 57 in Sandisfield. Tickets are \$12.50 with proceeds going to fund the restoration of the historic 1839 arts center building. For reservations, call (413) 258-3309.

The acoustic folk music duo consists of Jim Douglas on vocals, guitar, and English concertina, and Tim Van Egmond on vocals, hammered dulcimer, tin whistle, and harmonica. Yankee Notions has performed traditional and contemporary New England music for over twenty years, everything from toe-tapping Irish tunes to rollicking sea shanties to the tandem telling of a tall tale.

Jim Douglas has published three books and recorded seven albums. His most recent recording, *Under a Spell*, received the American Library Association's Notable Award. Tim Van Egmond is a member of the contra dance band Swallowtail and has appeared on National Public Radio's *A Prairie Home*

Glynis Oliver



*High water at Konkapot swimming hole after heavy rain on July 15*

*Companion* and at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History.

The performance is funded in part by the Sandisfield Cultural Council, a local agency supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

The Sandisfield Arts Center was a Baptist meeting house in the 1800s, an orthodox synagogue in the 1900s, and is now a performing arts space with high ceilings, great acoustics, and small-town charm. Restoration of the roof has just been completed with the help of a grant from the Massachusetts Historical Commission.

## Personal Notes

Happy Birthday to **Chelsey Smith** on the 4th, **Gabriella Makuc** on the 4th, **Kate Kopetchney** on the 5th, **David McAllester** on the 6th, **Ann Burns Smith** on the 7th, **Patrick Sheridan** on the 9th, **Justin Makuc** and **Ian Quisenberry** on the 11th, **Kate Olds** and **Sarah Olds** on the 15th, **Michelle Grotz** and **Zachary Transport** on the 20th, **Amanda Thorn** and **Henri Morrison** on the 24th, and **Ann McGinley** on the 26th.

Congratulations to **Beth and David Ziegler** on the birth of their son, **Randon Marshall**, on July 10. And

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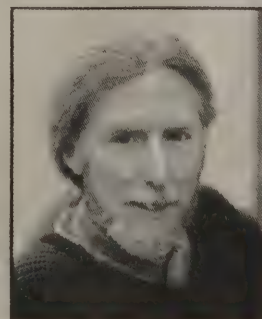
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congratulations also to **Jill Saloamon and Greg Antonioli** on the birth of their daughter **Ruby Salamon Antonioli** on May 19. Ruby is the sister of **Carly and Sophia**, and the granddaughter of **Jane and Alan Salamon** of Gould Road.

Happy Anniversary greetings to **Tom and Jane Thorn** on the 19th, **Stefan and Stefanie Grotz** on the 23rd, **Tom Morrison and Pam Gauthier** on the 28th and **Jeff and Hannah Moran** on the 29th.

Apologies to **Shawn Tryon** and family. Shawn's name was inadvertently omitted from the list of Y2K Mount Everett graduates. Congratulations to you Shawn. Go #20!

More unfinished school business, or the awards and honors just keep coming and coming . . . Monterey students **Hannah Bracken** and **Kate Vallianos** hold the President and Vice-President offices, respectively, of the Aurigan Chapter of the National Honor Society. (Acceptance into the NHS is based on leadership, service, character, and academic achievement. Sophomores, juniors, or seniors must have a cumulative scholastic average of 85%, a B or 3.0.) In addition, both young women were honored with Book Awards. Hannah received the Colby College Book Award for academic excellence and exemplifying school spirit. Kate received the Williams College Book Award, an honor presented to

outstanding juniors. Finally, Hannah was the Mount Everett delegate to Girl's State, an exercise in running a governmental body. Congratulations to both of you.

**Claire Mielke** was honored by Sheffield Plastics, Inc., for her role, along with classmates **Ashley Winseck** and **Amanda Janusz**, in implementing a user-friendly computer training program. Along with recommendations for improving employees' initial computer contact, the three students condensed an inch-thick computer manual to a single-page instruction sheet. In recognition of their problem-solving savvy, the program they designed went into effect the next day, and the three each received a \$500.00 scholarship from Sheffield Plastics, Inc. Move over Bill Gates!

**Edie Ross** is recuperating at home after knee surgery. Hope you get back on your feet soon, Edie, Brimfield is just around the corner.

The 1970 *Monterey News* archives jump from July to November, so . . .

**August 1971:** 125th Anniversary Committee—Plans for observing the 125th Anniversary of Monterey are in the hand of a special committee under the Chairmanship of William Mielke.

**August 1980:** Annual Gravity Car Race—On Sunday, August 31, be sure you check out the Gravity Car Race at Wallace Hall Rd. beginning at noon.

Last year, two hundred to three hundred people showed up for the event. The run is a half mile starting at the top of the hill and ending just below where the stream runs under the road. The vehicles are handmade coasters of any kind (nothing run on power.) There will be three prizes for speed—First Prize is \$100 (speed is determined by the average of the 2 best out of 3 runs). There will also be a prize for the slickest design in the opinion of all the drivers. Entry fee is \$10 (register between 10:00 & 11:00), no charge to watch. Around the turn at the bottom of the hill, the Firemen will be selling hot dogs, hamburgs, soda, and beer. Don't miss the excitement!

**August 1990:** Congratulations to Bob Hebert of Tyringham Road, well-known area race car driver, who recently completed the Firestone Firehawk at Watkins Glen, placing eleventh overall and seventh in class from a starting field of 74 cars. Driving a 1988 Pontiac Firebird prepared by Bill West of West Engineering in New Marlborough, car and driver were without mishap, completing 1,769 miles in a little over 24 hours, with top speeds of 122 mph. Hats off!

Send in your contributions of news by the fifteenth of the month, please, to 528-1871 or POB 211. Thanks.

— Deborah Mielke

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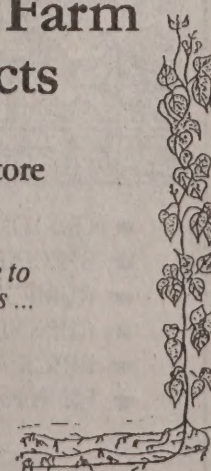


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## Family Fun Day at Beartown State Forest

On Saturday, August 12, the Department of Environmental Management will host a free day of family fun at Beartown State Forest. People of all ages are welcome to come down at 9:00 a.m. and enjoy a 1.5 mile hike around Benedict Pond, lead by naturalist, Jeanne Schnackenberg. From 11 a.m.—4 p.m. the Appalachian Mountain Gear Co. from Great Barrington will provide free use of their canoes and kayaks. For your listening pleasure, The Crashers will put on a special musical performance that will make you stomp your feet while you listen to their beat. The Crashers will play their unique instruments, the mandolin and mando'cello starting at 1:00 p.m. and will play until 2:30 p.m. at the Beach Area. This hour-and-a-half electrified act is a combination of original and contemporary folk music with an Irish twist.

**Directions to Beartown State Forest:** From the center of Monterey, head west on Route 23 for 2.5 miles. Turn right on Blue Hill Road (by Veterans Memorial Park). The Beartown State Forest entrance is 2 miles from Route 23 on the right.



## Contributors

We gratefully acknowledge contributions recently received from

William Kopetchny  
Peter and Eloise Kleban  
Judy Oplinger  
Jonathan and Catharyn Fletcher  
Gene and Lorna Bodian  
Everett and Mary Ann Fennelly  
Cliff and Jan Aerie  
Susan Landis  
Adam Landis  
Bud and Cathy Rodgers  
Dorothy Jordan  
Ann Tarbell  
Helen Perry  
Joseph and Sandra Loglisci  
Harry and Valberg Proudman  
Rudy Gero  
Seldon and Susan Whitaker  
Owen and Bebe Bernstein  
A. Wilbert Koivisto  
Mildred Galen  
Jamie Moscovitz  
Eve Labelle  
Jane Salamon  
Stuart and Adrian Gelbard  
Seymour and Marjorie Richman  
Joshua and Virginia Allentuck  
Paul Carnese  
Joyce Lebewohl  
Donald Sweeney  
June Grancio

## Dinah Also Recommends

*The Folk Keeper*, by Franny Billingsley

*The Folk Keeper* is a fantasy book. I think that everyone will enjoy this book. It is about a girl named Corinna. Corinna changes her name to Corin and pretends to be a boy because only boys can be folk keepers.

One day the mistress of Cliffsend Manor comes to Rhysbridge and asks Corin to come and be the new folk keeper. In Cliffsend the folk are a lot more dangerous than the folk at Rhysbridge.

To find out the adventures Corin has and the mystery of Corin's past, find this book and many others at the Monterey Library.

— Dinah Mielke

Robert and Roberta Silman  
Violet Hardisty  
Jerry Fenton  
Deborah Bauman  
Jean Germain  
Mattia Henley  
Gerard and Carole Clarin  
Robert and Anne Pipal  
Michael and Stephanie Sloane  
Renee Kotler  
Susan Sellew  
William and Catherine Mielke  
Fred Chapman & Chandler Crawford  
Nancy Adams  
Edward and Margaret Brown



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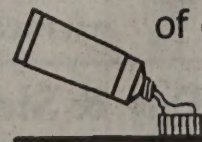
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## Calendar

**July 31–August 4:** Swimming lessons at town beach, mornings.

**August, 1, 2, 3, 8, 9:** Nature hikes led by Bonner McAllester, 9:00–10:30 a.m. Meet at Monterey Meetinghouse. Adults \$5, children \$2.

**Friday, August 4:** "The Religious Climate of the Berkshires" symposium previously announced for Monterey Meetinghouse, **CANCELLED**.

**Saturday, August 12:**

Family Fun Day, 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m., Benedict Pond, Beartown State Forest. Nature hikes, free use of canoes and kayaks, music by The Crashers. See p. 22 for details.

Storytelling by Kathy Bracken for children pre-k to grade four, 10:00 a.m., Monterey Library. See p. 7.

**Tuesday, August 15:**

Full Moon.

Free blood pressure clinic, 9:00–10:30 a.m., basement of Town Offices, administered by Visiting Nurses Assoc.

**Wednesday, August 16:** Monterey Historical Society field trip to the Stockbridge Cemetery. Meet at east gate at 6:15 p.m. See p. 4 for details. Information 528-3698.

**Saturday, August 19:**

Lake Garfield Association Boating and Recreation Team Meeting, 9 a.m., Meetinghouse basement.

Yankee Notions, acoustic folk music duo, 8:00 p.m., Sandisfield Arts Center, Hammertown Road, Sandisfield. Tickets \$12.50; information 413-258-3309. See p. 20 for details.

## Lake Garfield Association Eco Tip for August

*I look at your trees  
and you look at mine,  
So if we don't cut them,  
the view will stay fine.*

**Saturday, August 26:**

Square & contra dancing, 8:30–11:30 p.m. at the Sheffield Grange, Rt. 7, Sheffield, Mass. Music by Mountain Laurel, calling by Rick Futyma. All dances are taught, and beginners and children are welcome. Refreshments at intermission. Adults \$5, children \$2. Information 413-528-9385.

Scenic Mountain Act Informational Meeting, 9:00 a.m., Monterey Firehouse, sponsored by Lake Garfield Association. See p. 3 for details.

LakeFest, 12:30–8:30 p.m., Lake Garfield. See Lake Garfield News, p. 3 for details.

**August 26, 27, 31, Sept. 1, 2:** *Into the Landscape:* Part Three of Threads and Thresholds: A Theatrical History Series, 7:00 p.m., \$12.00 adults, free for children. Call 528-6888 for more information.

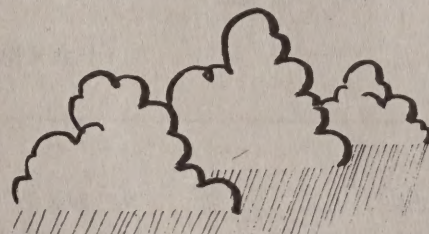
**Saturday, September 2:** Annual heirloom tomato tasting, 11:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m., The Bidwell House, Art School Rd. Free. See p. 6 for details. Information (413) 528-6888.

**Monday, September 4:** Labor Day, Town Offices closed; Transfer Station open 10:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m.

## The Observer

June 26–July 25, 2000

High temp. (7/3) ..... 89°  
Low temp. (7/6, 7, 8, 9) ..... 48°  
Avg. high temp. .... 77.8°  
Avg. low temp. .... 54.5°  
Avg. temp. .... 66.2°  
Total precipitation ..... 5.31"  
Precipitation occurred on 14 days



## Transfer Station Hours

Sunday ..... 8 a.m.–6 p.m.  
Wednesday .... 8 a.m.–1 p.m.  
Saturday ..... 8 a.m.–1 p.m.  
Labor Day ... 10 a.m.–6 p.m.

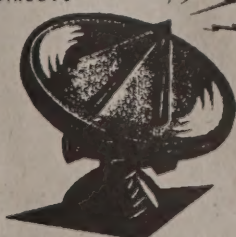
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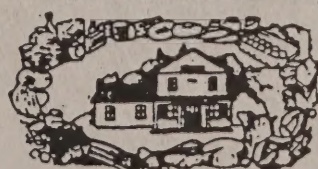
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..... David McAllester  
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Business Manager..... Barbara Tryon  
Treasurer.....Mari Enoch

Our editorial address is *Monterey News*, P. O. Box 9, Monterey, MA, 01245. We invite letters, articles, drawings, poetry, and photographs from readers. Please send submissions (on PC disk if possible) by the fifteenth of the month before publication, addressed to the attention of the Editor. Send any change of address, or initial request to receive the

*News* by mail (free!) to Barbara Tryon, Business Manager. We will typeset a text-only ad for your Monterey-based business, service, or event, or advertisers may submit an ad with graphics on a PC formatted disk. Address your request for advertising rates and further information to the Editor, or telephone us in Monterey at 413-528-4347.

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*Contributions from local artists this month: George Emmons, p. 17; Bonner McAllester, p. 15; Katie Olds, p. 11; Glynis Oliver, pp. 6, 9, 13, 14, 23.*

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